

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION to request that the Legislative Council direct the Environmental Quality Service Council, or any other appropriate interim or statutory study committee, to review Indiana's role in regulating the introduction of invasive species through ballast water.

ZAKAS

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on _____



SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION to request that the Legislative Council direct the Environmental Quality Service Council, or any other appropriate interim or statutory study committee, to review Indiana's role in regulating the introduction of invasive species through ballast water.

Whereas, on a daily basis, over 3000 marine species travel around the world in the ballast water on ships;

Whereas, when nonindigenous, invasive species are introduced into a new environment, they feed on native species which eliminates a vital part of the native food chain causing economic and environmental damage;

Whereas, invasive species, including the zebra mussel, have been found in the Great Lakes and small inland lakes in northern Indiana and have caused billions of dollars of damage;



Whereas, the federal government has begun to take action to limit the negative effects of the release of ballast water by ships; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the State of Indiana to explore its role with respect to such efforts and any additional means needed to regulate the introduction of nonindigenous, invasive species in the Great Lakes: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. That the Indiana State Senate recognizes the importance of regulating the introduction of invasive species to Indiana waters through the release of ballast water.

SECTION 2. That the Legislative Council is urged to direct the Environmental Quality Service Council, or any other appropriate interim or statutory study committee, to review the current action being taken to regulate the release of ballast water in the Great Lakes and to make recommendations, if determined appropriate, for further action to be taken by the State of Indiana to protect its waters.

SECTION 3. That the Environmental Quality Service Council, or other review committee, if directed to take such action, shall operate under the direction of the Legislative Council and shall issue a report when directed to do so by the Council.

